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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/066,346	02/01/2002	Youssef Drissi	[CHA9-2001-023US1]	5632

7590 06/21/2004
Norman L. Gundel
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Intellectual Property Law Dept. (Dept. QPZ/201)
8501 IBM Drive
Charlotte, NC 28262

EXAMINER

WOO, ISAAC M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2172

DATE MAILED: 06/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/066,346

Applicant(s)

DRISSI ET AL.

Examiner

Isaac M Woo

Art Unit

2172

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 February 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okura et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,226,638, hereinafter, "Okura").

With respect to claims 1, 4, 6, 8 and 11, Okura discloses, using a keyword dictionary to extract keywords, see (fig. 1, fig. 4, fig. 9, fig. 41, col. 3, lines 39-67 to col. 4, lines 1-11, col. 5, lines 5-41, col. 6, lines 3-48); translating the keywords into the languages supported by a bi-directional (cross-lingual information retrieval, col. 4, lines 4-11) synonym listing, see (s14, fig. 4, col. 5, lines 5-41); creating a keyword listing in each supported language, see (fig. 6-8, fig. 11-19, col. 6, lines 58-67 to col. 7, lines 1-67 to col. 8, lines 1-39); using the keywords in each supported language to create more than one inverted index of the documents including the keywords, one inverted index being in a first language and another inverted index being in a second language, see (fig. 1, fig. 4, fig. 9, fig. 41, col. 3, lines 39-67 to col. 4, lines 1-11, col. 5, lines 5-41, col.

6, lines 3-48); retrieving documents in a search mode comprising the steps of translating the search terms using the same bi-directional synonym listing, generating a translated query, see (fig. 1, fig. 4, fig. 9, fig. 41, col. 3, lines 39-67 to col. 4, lines 1-11, col. 5, lines 5-41, col. 6, lines 3-48, col. 6, lines 58-67 to col. 7, lines 1-67 to col. 8, lines 1-39). Okura discloses submitting, receiving and selecting the second (search results after the terms are translated, fig. 1, fig. 4, fig. 9, fig. 41, col. 3, lines 39-67 to col. 4, lines 1-11, col. 5, lines 5-41, col. 6, lines 3-48, col. 6, lines 58-67 to col. 7, lines 1-67 to col. 8, lines 1-39). Okura does not explicitly disclose, submitting parallel inquiries to first inverted indices, receiving first results of the search using the first inverted indices and selecting one of the first results. The first inquiry is against the same language. This is conventional data query system. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to include submitting parallel inquiries to first inverted indices, receiving first results of the search using the first inverted indices and selecting one of the first results in the system of the Okura to provide search results of same language between query input and search results and different languages. Because search results with different language provides efficient translation method in the data retrieval system.

With respect to claims 2, 7, 10 and 12, Okura discloses keywords to create an inverted index includes the step of using the Unicode system to manage multiple languages, see (col. 3, lines 39-67 to col. 4, lines 1-11).

With respect to claim 3, Okura discloses generating an inquiry includes identifying the language in which it is presented, see (col. 3, lines 39-67 to col. 4, lines 1-11).

With respect to claim 5, Okura discloses converting the search into another language includes the step of using a bi-directional keyword dictionary, see (cross-lingual information retrieval, col. 4, lines 4-11).

With respect to claim 9, Okura discloses the synonym list is a two-way synonym list which is usable in converting a search time from a first language to a second language and from a second language to a first language, see (col. 4, lines 4-11, fig. 6-8, fig. 11-19, col. 6, lines 58-67 to col. 7, lines 1-67 to col. 8, lines 1-39).

With respect to claim 13, Okura discloses module for identifying the language of the; user and uses the language of the user in the third module which translates the keywords, see (fig. 1, fig. 4, fig. 9, fig. 41, col. 3, lines 39-67 to col. 4, lines 1-11, col. 5, lines 5-41, col. 6, lines 3-48).

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Cherny (U.S. Patent No. 6,085,162) discloses the system for performing translation between different language are provided. The present invention includes a translation system that performs translation having increased accuracy by providing a three-dimensional topical dual-language database. The topical database includes a set of source-to-target language translations for each topic that the database is being used for. In one embodiment, a user first selects the topic of conversation, then words spoken into a telephone are translated and produced as synthesized voice signals from another telephone so that a near real-time conversation may be had between two people speaking different languages. An additional feature of the present invention is the addition of a computer terminal that displays the input and output phrases so that either user may edit the input phrases, or indicate that the translation was ambiguous and request a rephrasing of the material.

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Contact Information

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Isaac M Woo whose telephone number is (703) 305-0081. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E Breene can be reached on (703) 305-9790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

IMW
May 20, 2004


SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER